

7 scary good Halloween parties **22** Let's hear it for the ladies—in concert **26**



Thursday
OCTOBER 2, 2014

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A Chicago Tribune
publication

Rosamund Pike and Ben
Affleck in 'Gone Girl'

DID HE KILL HIS WIFE?

Chicago author Gillian Flynn gets inside your head—again—in 'Gone Girl'
pages 18-19, 34

BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM ■ GET MORE EAT, DRINK, DO IDEAS AT REDEYETCHICAGO.COM



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How to cancel your Ventra card when you move

Delays, dormancy fees can complicate CTA fare card refund process

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

When Marc Sherman and his wife moved from Bucktown to Seattle in the spring, he contacted Ventra customer service representatives to cancel their accounts and get a refund for the combined \$43 remaining on their Ventra cards.

Sherman was told to send a utility bill to prove he and his wife were living out of state. Sherman provided the paperwork in early June and waited. And waited some more. Finally, after four months, Sherman received a check for the leftover Ventra card funds.

"If [Ventra is] going to charge a fee to those who don't go through their cancellation process, I would expect this cancellation process to be a relatively smooth and well-thought-through operation. But alas ..." Sherman, 39, told RedEye.

Sherman and his wife Cindy took advantage of a little-known opportunity that allows Ventra users who move out of state to cancel their account and seek a refund if they provide documentation that they have moved.

If riders don't use the funds on their card on buses or trains for 18 continuous months, \$5 is deducted per month until there is no more money in the account. The Ventra dormancy fee has been controversial among CTA riders, who call it an unfair deduction.

CTA spokeswoman Catherine Hosinski said Sherman's case is an uncommon one. Most riders are told to spend down the balance on their accounts before they move. Still, the option to seek a refund exists.

Riders who submit eligible requests with proper documentation should receive refunds within four to six weeks, Hosinski said.

Emails between Sherman and Ventra that Sherman provided RedEye show delays in paperwork review by the CTA. A Ventra customer service agent told Sherman she didn't



Ventra swipe pad
CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE FILE

"If [Ventra is] going to charge a fee to those who don't go through their cancellation process, I would expect this cancellation process to be a relatively smooth and well-thought-through operation. But alas ..."

—Marc Sherman, 39, on the process of canceling his Ventra card and getting a refund

cent of its ridership.

Riders with Chicago Card Plus, which functioned like Ventra accounts, could seek refunds for money on their account if they moved out of state or proved that they could no longer use CTA services.

The dormancy fee is new with Ventra. The CTA said it notifies riders who have registered Ventra cards three months in advance of their accounts reaching dormancy at 18 months.

The CTA slowed its transition to Ventra a year ago so Ventra vendor Cubic Transportation Systems could fix glitches the CTA said have been fixed. The CTA fully transitioned to Ventra in July.

Riders were allowed to transfer their balances from some magnetic-stripe cards and Chicago Cards to their Ventra cards through early September. More than 6,000 cards were mailed in, totaling more than \$45,000.

"I am not disgruntled, bitter, or looking for retribution," Sherman told RedEye about the refund process. "I'm mostly just amused and annoyed because I've followed the Ventra saga over the past few years."

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know how long the refund process would take.

Refunds can be issued for either the money in the transit account, any unused unlimited rides passes or a combination of the two with a maximum value of \$300.

Riders who want to seek a refund have to either call Ventra customer service at 1-877-669-8368 or stop by the Ventra customer service center, 165 N. Jefferson St.

Riders must provide documentation of

the new address, which includes a utility bill, copy of a tenant lease, auto or home insurance card with the new address pre-printed, recent property tax bill or vehicle registration form.

To be eligible for a refund, the account must have a minimum balance of \$10. Refunds cannot be issued on pre-tax benefits.

Before CTA transitioned to Ventra, the agency did not issue refunds on its disposable magnetic stripe cards, used by about 75 per-



“ ”

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SCOTT C MORGAN, WINDY CITY TIMES

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really. But you should enter
RedEye's My Apartment Sucks
contest to win cool stuff for your digs.

Develop a twitch while perusing cool Apartment Therapy photo tours? Never really had an eye for appealing home decor, opting instead to just stick with that hand-me-down futon and those unframed posters you bought at Spencer's in high school?

Newsflash: You're an adult. Sounds like it's time for an intervention. We can relate, and we want to help.

RedEye is looking for some of the saddest, laziest and most desperate Chicago apart-

ments to compete in our My Apartment Sucks bracket contest for the chance to win a makeover for your place. Readers will vote for their favorites to move ahead in the competition, and the champ will win:

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- This is not a contest for the apartments with the worst landlords. Bad-sad decor and organization only!
- Seriously, tell your boyfriend with the ugly couch to enter.
- Go to redeye.chicago.com/myapartment sucks to enter. The competition is already sad but fierce, so get to it!



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Craigslist users this week were offering to wait in line at Hot Doug's for up to \$300 before the restaurant's last day Friday.



Deb Sitron does some work while drinking an iced coffee on the parklet, or People's Spot, on Lincoln Avenue in Lakeview.

NANCY STONE/TRIBUNE

SEEING (PEOPLE) SPOTS?

Colorful outdoor patios around Chicago are good for business, council says

By Rachel Cromidas | REDEYE

Those colorful outdoor seating areas around Lakeview, Andersonville, Bronzeville and the Loop might be good for area businesses, according to a study by the local Metropolitan Planning Council.

For the past three summers, the city's Department of Transportation has ceded to pedestrians a handful of parking spots around the North Side, Bronzeville and downtown. Called "People Spots," the spaces feature public seating and patios. There are currently nine spots around the city.

The Metropolitan Planning Council had the nine spots surveyed this year. The group collected data from

100 people and about 40 business owners who help fund the spots. Most people surveyed said the People Spots encouraged neighborhood shopping and in many cases prompted passers-by to stop and make unplanned purchases at nearby businesses.

About 80 percent of the surveyed business owners said the spots were good for business because they encouraged foot traffic. And some said they saw a 10 to 20 percent uptick in sales after the spots were installed, according to survey results.

More than 90 percent of the people surveyed said the spots "improved the vibe" of the streets.

"Anything that can enliven a community and get people to come out of their homes and be a part of [the street life] is really positive," said Chrissy Mancini Nichols, director of research at the Metropolitan Planning Council. "A lot of people said they would be at

home if not for the spots: 'We were home, we wanted to come outside, and now we have a place to sit.'"

Roughly 450 people hang out in the people spots on an average day, she noted. When the spots are removed for the winter months, about 18 parking spots become available again.

Businesses and community groups can apply online for a spot, Mancini Nichols said. She's heard of interest from developers and business owners around the city.

Francis Lee, the owner of De Rice at 920 E. 47th St. in Kenwood told surveyors that the People Spot near his restaurant was easier to maintain than a sidewalk cafe, which can require a complicated permit process. He also said it makes people "feel safer and more comfortable" spending time outside De Rice.

RCROMIDAS@TRIBUNE.COM | @RACHELCROMIDAS

City pays some refunds on red light camera snafus

Chicago Tribune

City Hall has promised 126 refunds to drivers tagged for \$100 fines during suspicious spikes in red light camera tickets discovered by a Tribune investigation, but upheld thousands of other tickets issued at the same times—all without explaining what caused the sudden surges.

The refund letters dated last week are the first public acknowledgment by the city that some drivers were targeted in error by a camera system prone to ticket spikes—some lasting weeks—that the city says it never noticed.

Mayor Emanuel's administration offered to review nearly 16,000 tickets issued during spikes exposed by the Tribune in July, and about 3,300 responses came back. A Tribune review of who got those letters and the way the appeals are being conducted raises new questions about the city's effort to restore confidence in Chicago's beleaguered camera program.

The city ignored tens of thousands of tickets by limiting their review to the 12 intersections with the most dramatic spikes highlighted by the Tribune. Even then, the city left thousands of drivers out of their review because of how it defined the duration of the surges. In other cases, the city included tickets when cameras were performing as expected—potentially increasing the likelihood those tickets would be upheld on review.

The examinations themselves, conducted by an outside auditing firm, were done in private and focused on whether the videotape of the violations showed drivers broke the traffic law. The examiners did not consider whether the camera system was working properly, as an administrative law judge might do in a regular appeal.

More broadly, the city's limited focus on potential refunds for a subset of drivers never addressed the fundamental questions about the oversight, reliability and fairness of a program already mired in a federal corruption investigation into allegations the city's ex-vendor paid \$2 million in bribes to get the business.

EXPRESS LINES

- » Police have arrested Sarah Michelle Sobieski, 42, who is accused of stealing more than \$17,000 in a West Loop apartment rental scam last year, authorities said.
- » Adrian Balle, 48, a registered sex offender with a criminal record dating back nearly 30 years, has been charged with assaulting a woman at the Chicago Avenue station on the CTA Brown Line, authorities said.
- » Days after a fire knocked a critical air-traffic facility in Aurora offline, O'Hare Airport on Tuesday edged past Atlanta's airport—the nation's busiest—in terms of total flights, according to federal aviation data.

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Homicides from Sept. 24 to 4 p.m. Wednesday

HOMICIDE TRACKER

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

Twelve people were killed in homicides in Chicago in the last week, including two female victims found stabbed to death Sunday in Dunning, a Northwest Side community, a RedEye analysis of preliminary police data found.

On Sunday, a 7-year-old girl and 34-year-old woman were found stabbed to death in a domestic case in the 3400 block of North Odell

Avenue, according to officials.

Dunning, which counted 42,000 residents in the 2010 Census, has loose borders of Montrose Avenue to the north, Belmont Avenue to the south, Cumberland Avenue to the west and Austin Avenue to the east.

Dunning has logged three homicides so far this year. Dunning recorded one homicide last year, a stabbing fatality, the same as in 2012.

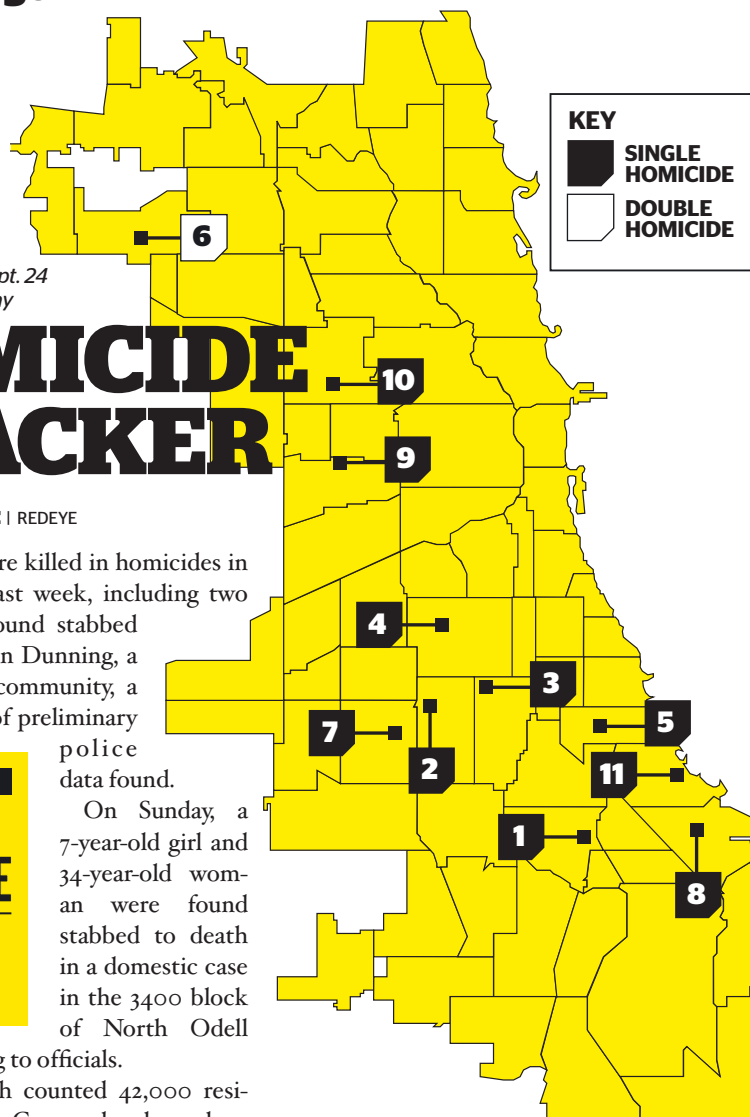
Citywide, gunshot homicides were logged in the last week in Chicago Lawn, Englewood, Humboldt Park, New City, North Lawndale, South Chicago, South Shore and West Englewood, according to police information.

Meanwhile, a 20-year-old man was stabbed to death Saturday in the 6500 block of South Minerva Avenue in Woodlawn, police said. Two days earlier, an 88-year-old man was beaten to death in the 8500 block of South Cottage Grove Avenue in Chatham, according to officials.

September ended this week with 45 homicides, up from 43 homicides in September 2013, RedEye determined.

No homicides have been logged so far this month. Thirty-two homicides were recorded in October 2013, RedEye found.

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- 1 8500 BLOCK OF S. COTTAGE GROVE AVE.**
Date: Sept. 25 Cause: Assault
- 2 1900 BLOCK OF W. 59TH ST.**
Date: Sept. 26 Cause: Gunshot
- 3 5700 BLOCK OF S. ABERDEEN ST.**
Date: Sept. 26 Cause: Gunshot
- 4 4500 BLOCK OF S. HERMITAGE AVE.**
Date: Sept. 26 Cause: Gunshot
- 5 6500 BLOCK OF S. MINERVA AVE.**
Date: Sept. 27 Cause: Stabbing
- 6 3400 BLOCK OF N. ODELL AVE.**
Date: Sept. 28 Cause: Stabbing
- 7 6600 BLOCK OF S. TALMAN AVE.**
Date: Sept. 28 Cause: Gunshot
- 8 8500 BLOCK OF W. ESCANABA AVE.**
Date: Sept. 28 Cause: Gunshot
- 9 900 BLOCK OF S. LAWNDALE AVE.**
Date: Sept. 29 Cause: Gunshot
- 10 600 BLOCK OF N. RIDGEWAY AVE.**
Date: Sept. 30 Cause: Gunshot
- 11 7300 BLOCK OF S. SOUTH SHORE DR.**
Date: Sept. 30 Cause: Gunshot

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A Ukrainian soldier trains in the Donetsk area. EPA/PHOTO

Bombings put Ukraine cease-fire in doubt

1 At least 10 people were killed Wednesday when shells hit a school playground and a minivan in a nearby street in Donetsk, Ukraine, underscoring the fragility of a cease-fire between separatists and government forces.

Turkey may be ready to fight against militants

2 Turkey signalled it may send troops into Syria or Iraq and let allies use Turkish bases to fight the Islamic State, as coalition jets launched airstrikes Wednesday on insurgents besieging a town on its southern border with Syria.

Hong Kong leader, protesters in stalemate

3 Hong Kong leader Leung Chun-ying is willing to let pro-democracy demonstrations blocking large areas of the city go on for weeks if necessary, a source close to him said, while tens of thousands of protesters vowed Thursday they would not budge.

Florida man convicted of killing unarmed teen

4 A Florida jury found Michael Dunn, a white man, guilty of first-degree murder Wednesday in the shooting death of unarmed black teen Jordan Davis in an argument over loud rap music.

Mexico reportedly captures drug lord

5 Mexican authorities have captured drug lord Hector Beltran Leyva, the head of a family crime syndicate that waged a bloody conflict with kingpin Joaquin "Shorty" Guzman, a government source said Wednesday.

2 Algerians investigated over kidnapping

6 Two Algerians who accompanied Frenchman Herve Gourdel just before militants kidnapped and beheaded him are under house arrest while a judge investigates whether they were involved in the abduction, security sources in Algiers said Wednesday.

Hospital sent Ebola patient home

7 A man infected with the Ebola virus slipped through the cracks of a system designed to stop the disease from spreading, health officials conceded Wednesday as they isolated five schoolchildren who may have had contact with the ill man and rushed to identify others who spent time with him.

The patient, a Liberian named Thomas Eric Duncan, was listed in serious condition at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital after being taken there by ambulance Sunday morning, two days after his first visit to the hospital's ER ended with doctors sending him away with antibiotics.

The children, who had been in the apartment where he was staying, were pulled from school, and a team of federal, state and local officials warned others who had spent time

with Duncan to be on alert for fevers, body aches and other symptoms of Ebola.

At a news conference, Gov. Rick Perry joined health experts to try to reassure the public that Ebola, which has killed more than 3,000 in West Africa, does not pose a danger to this nation.

"Rest assured, our system is working as it should," Perry said.

"This is not West Africa. This is a very sophisticated city, a very sophisticated hospital," said Dr. David Lakey, commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services. "The chances of it being spread are very, very small."

But the failure of a system created specifically to deal with a possible Ebola case was a frightening reminder of the ease with which viruses once confined to remote corners of

the globe can leap from continent to continent if the simple steps in place to control them are not followed.

As officials grappled with the crack in their system, a specially trained team in Texas fanned out through a Dallas neighborhood in search of anyone who had contact with Duncan, who had come to visit his fiancée.

Dr. Christopher Perkins, the Dallas County Health and Human Services medical director, said 12 to 18 contacts were being monitored for now. Their home isolation was expected to last three weeks, the incubation period for Ebola.

In addition, two paramedics and one paramedic intern who responded to the call for an ambulance Sunday were taken off duty and isolated for three weeks at home. None tested positive for Ebola.



8 Muslim pilgrims pray Wednesday around the holy Kaaba at the Grand Mosque during the annual hajj pilgrimage in Mecca. REUTERS

Secret Service boss resigns amid scandal

9 Secret Service Director Julia Pierson resigned under fire Wednesday after a series of security lapses came to light that exposed gaping holes in the protective cocoon around President Obama.

Pierson, who had been in her position since March 2013, faced growing calls from lawmakers to step down in the fallout from a Sept. 19 incident in which an Iraq war veteran with a knife clambered over the White House fence, sprinted across the lawn and got deep inside the mansion before an off-duty agent stopped him.

Pierson had told a congressional committee Tuesday she took "full responsibility" for security lapses. On Wednesday, she offered her resignation in a meeting with Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, who accepted it.

Pierson's resignation came a day after the disclosure that, in a violation of protocol, an armed private security contractor with a criminal record rode on an elevator with Obama in Atlanta earlier this month and took pictures and video of the president on his phone.



THE DIGIT

47 The death toll from the eruption of a Japanese volcano rose to 47 on Wednesday, the worst in 88 years, after more victims were discovered on ash-covered Mount Ontake. Military searchers resumed a recovery operation with helicopters early Wednesday, a day after officials called off rescue efforts because of poisonous gas and fears of another blast.

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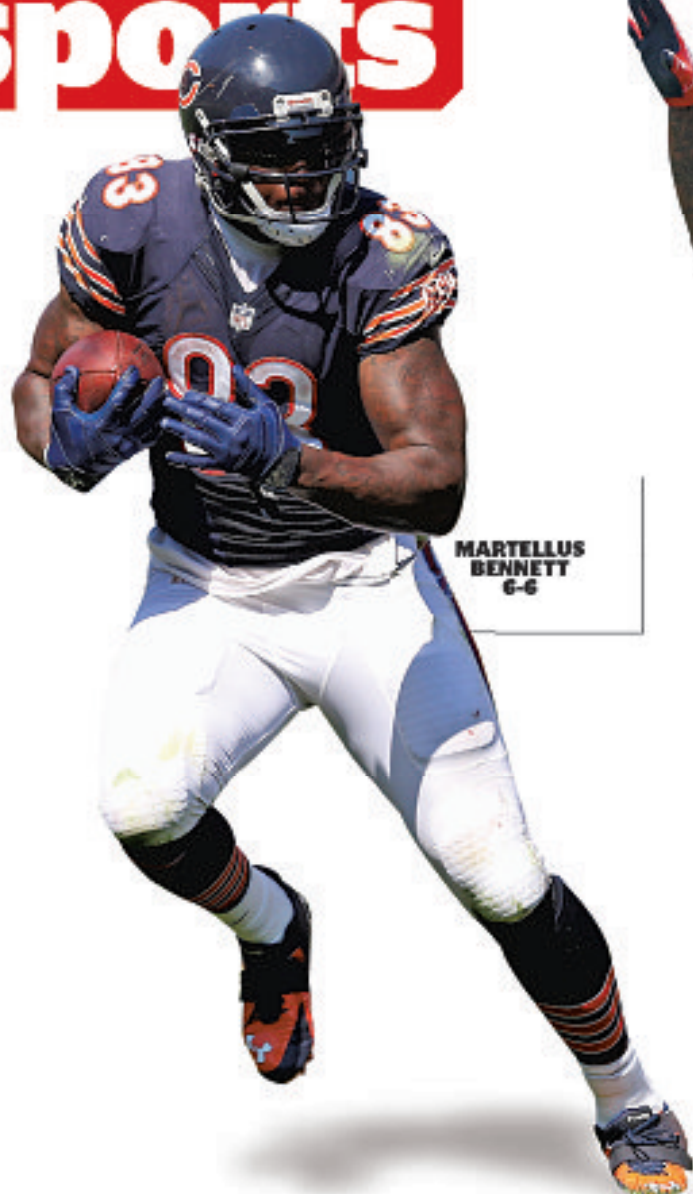
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GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

SIZE ISN'T EVERYTHING

BUT IT REALLY HELPS TO HAVE THE BEARS RECEIVERS' HEIGHT

Chicago Tribune

Bears cornerback Tim Jennings nodded when asked to name the toughest red-zone threat he has faced in the NFL.

"I'd have to say the guys right here in this locker room—the guys I go against every day," Jennings said.

Honest words from a two-time Pro Bowl player who stands just 5-foot-8 and must regularly "battle in the post" with men a half-foot or more taller, including the Lions' 6-5 Calvin Johnson.

The Bears have one of the most imposing groups of receivers in football and play the jump-ball game as well as anyone. The 6-6 Bennett, 6-4 Marshall and 6-3 Jeffery

pose a terrible matchup for any team.

Red-zone passing success is a combination of quarterback and receiver, but from the pass-catching perspective, attacking the ball and establishing position are essential.

Bennett said he has improved in those areas while working with Marshall. He said there are plenty of tricks involved, though he didn't like the old-school comparison of Dennis Rodman going for a rebound.

"More like Moses Malone," said Bennett, going even older-school.

The 38-17 loss to Green Bay was interesting for a few reasons, not the least being that while the Bears couldn't stop the Packers, the Packers also couldn't stop the Bears.

Jay Cutler and Sam Shields of the Green Bay Packers



It was the Bears who stopped themselves, throwing two interceptions, running out of downs and making an awful time-management mess at the end of the first half.

Wonderful as it is that the Bears can tower over the opposition, the Ravens' Steve Smith reminded everyone that height isn't everything. The 5-9 Smith, who virtually single-handedly drove the Bears out of the 2005 playoffs with Carolina, torched his old team Sunday for 139 yards on seven catches and two

touchdowns.

"I'm 35 years old and I ran around those boys like they were schoolyard kids," Smith said of the Panthers, who host the Bears on Sunday.

The Panthers will be looking for redemption from that performance, just as the Bears will be looking for the same after the loss to the Packers. But instead of running around the schoolyard kids, the Bears' plan will be to jump over them.

4 Number of NFL teams that don't have at least one starting receiver 6-1 or taller. Five teams boast either a receiver taller than Brandon Marshall (6-4) or a tight end taller than Martellus Bennett (6-6).

1 Only one NFL team, Tampa Bay, can field a taller receiving trio on average than the Bears. The Buccaneers have 6-5 receivers **Vincent Jackson** and Mike Evans and 6-4 tight end Brandon Myers.

5 Brandon Marshall leads the NFL with five red-zone touchdown catches in 2014, while Martellus Bennett is one of five players with four. Throw in Alshon Jeffery's touchdown off a screen pass Sunday, and the Bears have 10 red-zone scoring catches, fourth in the league behind the Colts (13), Giants (12) and Saints (11).

50 PERCENT

Bennett, Marshall and Jeffery have accounted for 50 percent of the Bears' 1,396 offensive yards this season. The trio has 701 yards receiving and 25 rushing.



Marshall apologizes: 'I need to give them more'

Speaking of Brandon Marshall, he apologized for not speaking to the media after Sunday's loss to Green Bay. His colleagues on Showtime's "Inside the NFL" called him out on the show, which taped Monday and aired Tuesday. "[The media are] killing me right now. They're killing me right now," Marshall said. "But, I have to say, these people in Chicago have really treated me good. And I need to give them more. I tried to channel my inner-Marshawn Lynch [by not talking]. And it didn't work for me. It didn't work for me."

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LINED UP

The Bulls have tons of talent to work with. The Cubs, well, maybe they'll get there one day.



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Ragin' Cajun



Gwendolyn Purdom
@gwpurdom
RedEye
copy editor



Bryant McFadden
@BMac_120
Co-host,
120 Sports

1	Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau already has his starters selected. You surprised?	Nope. If you saw the way those 6-year-olds played, you wouldn't be either.	Not surprised. He's got that Type A hairline.	Nope, it's pretty easy when you have D-Rose, Pau Gasol and Joakim Noah. Three-fifths of the starters are chosen for you.	Our lineup intros put others to shame—LeBron wishes he got a light show and animated charging bulls—he wants to be ready.	No, I'm not surprised. The starters were set once they signed Gasol.
2	When Theo Epstein says the Cubs want to add "impact talent," what does he mean?	I'm not going to make a joke at the Cubs' expense. We're getting better. Slowly.	Just another way of saying, "There's always next year."	Any talent would make an impact on that team.	He means "talent" in general, but who doesn't love a good flashy buzzword?	He wants a guy that will come in and make an immediate, consistent impact. Players like Trout, Stanton, McCutchen.
3	Convince the Bulls to sign Jimmy Butler to a long-term extension.	Please. Please! Come on. Fine, whatever. Oh, you will? Great.	We're in the middle of his made-for-Hollywood story. Just sign him and imagine the celebrity cast!	I can't, especially with Doug McDermott on the bench.	C'mon, Gar! All the cool kids are doing it...	Jimmy hasn't reached his prime yet, but he's en route. He provides quality on both sides of the ball.
4	If Jay Cutler had been traded to Washington in 2009...	...I'd have been happy, but the Bears would probably still be an 8-8-ish team. Sigh.	...we'd still be looking at pictures of Kyle Orton partying at a college bar?	...the world would have never experienced the great "Smokin' Jay Cutler" meme. NOOOOOOOO!	...K-Cav would have a lot of Lincoln Memorial tourist pics of Jay looking as stern as Abe—only not nearly as wise.	...Washington would be a playoff team and the Bears would still be searching for a franchise quarterback.
5	Tiger Woods' new restaurant is called The Woods Jupiter: Sports and Dining Club. Make sense?	I told you to stop asking me questions about Tiger Woods.	It sounds washed up but we are talking about Tiger. So, perfect sense.	Is this some cosmic, twilight restaurant? Why the heck is Jupiter in the name?	Grammar and word choice never have been Tiger's strong suits. Did you read those texts?	No!

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Snoop Dogg's son to Notre Dame?

Ain't nuthin' but an ND thang, baby? Perhaps. Cordell Broadus, son of Snoop Dogg and a sought-after receiver prospect from Las Vegas, has scheduled an official visit to Notre Dame, Broadus tweeted Tuesday. Notre Dame is no stranger to celebrity offspring. Torii Hunter Jr., whose dad plays for the Detroit Tigers, is on the current team, as is Jesse Bongiovanni, son of Jon Bon Jovi.



Allen 'on track' for Sunday

Bears defensive end **Jared Allen** is confident he will play Sunday against Carolina despite the pneumonia that recently weakened him. "Try to get my weight back is a big thing right now and make sure my stamina is where it's at, and each day has been great," Allen said. "We're taking it day by day and right now I'm on track."

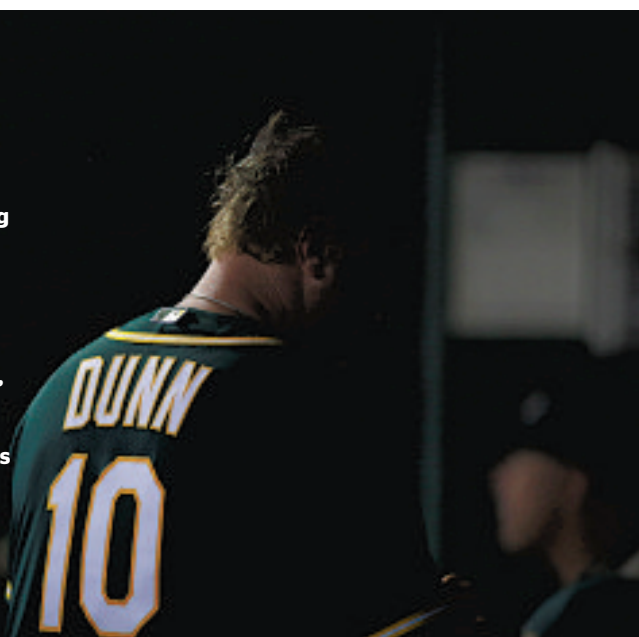


Police: Phelps' blood alcohol almost twice limit

A red-eyed and slurring Michael Phelps said he had three to four drinks at the new Horseshoe Casino when he was stopped for speeding Tuesday, and his blood alcohol level tested at .14, well above the .08 limit, according to documents obtained Wednesday by The Baltimore Sun.

He gone

Adam Dunn won't be hitting home runs—or striking out—for anyone else. The former White Sox slugger, who finally made it to the playoffs with Oakland but never got off the bench in Tuesday's wild-card game, is expected to retire after a 14-year career. If he officially retires, Dunn ends his career with a .237 batting average, 462 home runs and 1,168 RBIs.



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'GONE GIRL' AUTHOR
GILLIAN FLYNN BRINGS
HER DARK BESTSELLER
TO THE SCREEN



Christopher Borrelli | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Walking across Western Avenue on a muggy September afternoon, Lincoln Park-based "Gone Girl" writer Gillian Flynn stepped through the rutted pavement of a construction zone and explained with patience and precision how she would murder me one day. Granted, I had asked.

"Say you needed to kill me," I proposed, "how would you do it? Hammer? Rope? A chain saw to the back?" Immediately, I regretted asking, and not because she had an unnervingly ready response. The question was gauche: In polite conversation, one does not ask a magician to perform a magic trick or a comedian to tell a joke, and one does not ask the hottest crime and mystery writer in the nation, particularly one with a knack for bottomless wells of unease and characters harboring corrosive tempers, to plot your death. It's tacky. Thankfully, Flynn is not a polite conversationalist, and she doesn't blink at tacky.

"So, here's what I would do," the 43-year-old novelist and first-time screenwriter said over howls of traffic, answering without hesitation. "I would do it quietly. I am a big fan of done quietly. And I would make it look like an accident, but I wouldn't do it myself—probably something like a 'Strangers on a Train' deal ... where it couldn't be traced back to me. And what I would ask for was ... for you to have a really bad fall. Like a really bad, bad fall, down some stairs. At least one hard flight of stairs. It's clean and very hard to know how it happened. I am a fan of steep stairs."

Read the full interview at redeyechicago.com/gone. To the right, some select quotes.

Gillian Flynn
E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE

Y WITH MURDER



Ben Affleck and Rosamund Pike in 'Gone Girl'

"I knew I wanted to write about women. Specifically, what was left unsaid. I never set out to do the dark side of women, but I knew I wanted to write about violence. Half of all novels seem to be about men, their daddy issues and their cycles of violence, and what was missing was a particular breed of violence that women are capable of, which is as psychological as it is physical. The truth is, women are not given enough credit for how mean, and how feral, they can be."



Ben Affleck and Tyler Perry in 'Gone Girl'

"Well, I'm not naturally a nice person. I have an imaginary violent streak, and my first instinct is not to do the right thing. I'm just lucky. I was raised by kind and moral parents. But raised differently? A crashshoot."

"Nothing in [the book] was specific to my marriage. I was more fascinated with how true crime is covered, how in the face of nothing happening for months, TV makes its own narrative." (Her screenplay for the film would eventually include a line, spoken by Affleck, seemingly commenting on his own years in the bull's-eye: "They disliked me, then they liked me. They hated me, and now they love me.")

"I write nasty women. I do. But for some reason, if men do this, the character is an antihero. I get a sense that some people feel that women need coddling, or protection from negative female characters, which is crazy. There are good female characters in my books and bad. Bad guys and good guys."



'Gone Girl'

This movie is a sharp object



FAST PAISED

Matt Pais

» mpais@tribune.com
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Cunning as a raptor and nearly as fast, "Gone Girl" is an anesthetic-free dissection of human nature. It pulls the masks off its manipulative characters and reveals something bloody and ugly underneath. Again: This is not a sunny movie.

It is, however, very funny at times, in its own sick way. That's courtesy of Chicago-based writer Gillian Flynn, adapting her deservedly best selling novel. If you haven't read it, do so.

The titular girl is Amy Dunne (Rosamund Pike, finally given a big-time starring role), who has vanished on the morning of her fifth wedding anniversary. Her husband, Nick (Ben Affleck), smiles at the wrong times and knows nothing of his wife's daily life in North Carthage, Mo., where the couple moved from New York two years prior to be closer to Nick's ailing mom. Det. Rhonda Boney (Kim Dickens of "Friday Night Lights") believes Nick; Boney's partner, officer Jim Gilpin (Patrick Fugit), sees a man foolishly trying and failing to be likable, claiming to have nothing to hide while constantly seeming off-balance.

(Fun fact: A smaller cop role is played by Lee Norris, who was Minkus on "Boy Meets World.")

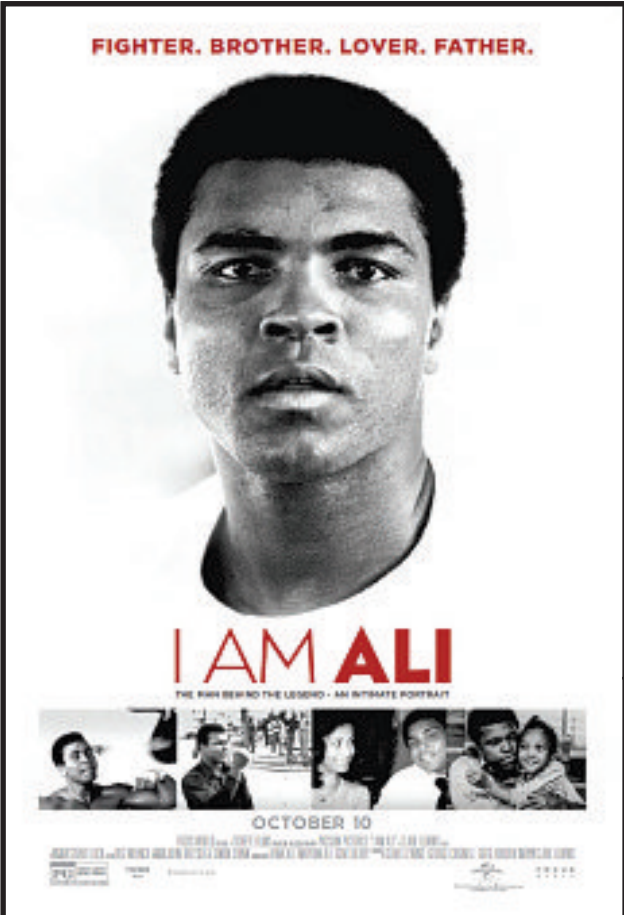
Speaking of off-balance, "Gone Girl," which opens Friday and is a perfect fit for director David Fincher ("Seven," "The Social Network"), won't give some viewers what they expect. It's sinister with a

!!!! **Gone Girl**
R

low quantity of violence, a thriller only in the drama's diabolical genius. There's also a lot to process. "Gone Girl" doesn't pause for the audience to catch up, and it feels stuffed with plot details that don't always get the attention they need. The motivation for certain decisions and errors in judgment gets swept up in two-and-a-half hours that fly by in an exquisite, vicious blur.

Fortunately, Affleck rises to a delicate role, and Pike masterfully hones the sharp edges of Amy's mind. When she says, "I prefer men who are funny, not 'funny,'" you can almost see the implied air quotes. Every casting choice pays off, actually, including Tyler Perry as a high-priced lawyer, Sela Ward (of that other "I didn't kill my wife" movie, "The Fugitive") as a TV host and model Emily "Blurred Lines" Ratajowski as a hurricane of lips and youth and cleavage, giving Andie substance even though she worked better in the book.

Fincher gets points off for showing Nick and his twin sister, Margo (Carrie Coon), playing the actual game of "Life" when it's obvious who here treats life as a game with only one possible winner. But the movie's a bubbling, snarling tar pit of truth about liars who don't want to be lied to and both the stupid and the smart falling into their own obviously-dug holes. The movie asks, can we know everything and nothing about someone? Can we influence circumstances seemingly beyond our control? Personally and professionally, the characters of "Gone Girl" constantly try to think their way out of confinement, trapped like a brain inside a skull.



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■ **Take Me to the River** (PG) 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
■ **The Skeleton Twins** (R) (Closed caption) 1:45, 4:20, 7:45, 10:00
■ **Hector and the Search for Happiness** (R) (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50

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■ **The Equalizer: The IMAX Experience** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:30, 4:20, 7:40, 11:00
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 10:15
■ **Tim Rice's From Here to Eternity** (NR) ★ 7:00
■ **The Equalizer** (R) (Closed caption) 11:50, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20
■ **Annabelle** (R) (Closed caption) 8:00, 10:30
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00
■ **Left Behind** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 7:00, 10:00
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
■ **Más negro que la noche** (R) 2:20, 5:00, 10:30
■ **Más negro que la noche 3D** (R) 11:40, 7:50
■ **Tusk** (R) 10:15
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:35, 2:15, 5:15, 7:55, 10:55
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) (Closed caption) 1:35, 4:35, 7:15, 10:25
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 8:20, 11:00
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) (Closed caption) 11:55, 1:25, 2:35, 4:25, 7:05, 9:55
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:05, 2:45, 4:55, 6:00
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45
■ **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:15, 2:50
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:35, 3:55, 7:10
■ **Lucy** (R) (Closed caption) 10:55

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■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) 7:30
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) 5:00, 10:00
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) ★ 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ 4:50, 7:20, 9:45
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) ★ 5:15, 7:45, 10:15

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■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) 12:45, 3:50, 6:45, 9:40
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ 12:30, 1:00, 3:30, 4:00, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) 1:25, 2:30, 3:45, 4:45, 5:55, 8:15
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) ★ 3:40, 8:50
■ **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D** (PG-13) 1:30, 6:35
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ 12:35, 1:15, 3:15, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) ★ 1:10, 6:15
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) ★ 1:20, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ 8:00, 10:00
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) ★ 1:45, 4:30, 7:20
■ **Let's Be Cops** (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:25, 9:55
■ **As Above/So Below** (R) 1:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
■ **Annabelle** (R) ★ 9:00
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■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) 11:10, 1:45, 4:05, 6:40, 9:00
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) ★ 1:50, 6:45
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) 11:05, 12:00, 1:30, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:20
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 11:20, 4:20
■ **AMC Independent Más negro que la noche** (R) ★ 11:00, 4:20, 9:45
■ **AMC Independent Bang Bang!** (NR) ★ 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 9:30
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) 11:00, 1:35, 4:15
■ **AMC Independent Jimi: All Is by My Side** (R) ★ 12:55, 3:50, 10:30
■ **AMC Independent Tracks** (PG-13) ★ 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) 11:20, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ 8:00, 9:20, 10:00, 10:40
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) 11:15, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
■ **AMC Independent The Skeleton Twins** (R) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30
■ **AMC Independent Tusk** (R) 4:35, 10:20
■ **AMC Independent The Drop** (R) 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 10:30
■ **AMC Independent Boyhood** (R) 12:30, 6:15, 10:00
■ **AMC Independent Halder** (NR) ★ 11:15, 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30
■ **AMC Independent Hector and the Search for Happiness** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:45, 4:00
■ **AMC Independent The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby** (R) 1:45
■ **Tim Rice's From Here to Eternity** (NR) ★ 7:00
■ **Annabelle** (R) 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
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■ **Jimi: All Is by My Side** (R) 4:30
■ **The Zero Theorem** (R) 4:40
■ **Nas: Time Is Illmatic** (NR) 7:30, 9:45
■ **Gone Girl** (R) 7:30

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628
■ **Boyhood** (R) 2:00, 7:00
■ **The Drop** (R) 2:15, 4:20, 6:25, 8:30
■ **The Evil Dead** (NC-17) 11:00
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
■ **Lucy** (R) 5:10, 10:00
■ **Shaun of the Dead** (R) 10:30
■ **The Skeleton Twins** (R) 2:30, 4:20, 6:10, 8:00, 9:50

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800
■ **In Search of Chopin** (NR) 6:00, 8:15
■ **Rocks in My Pockets** (NR) 8:15
■ **Carlos Motta: The Nefandus Trilogy** (NR) 6:00

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ 10:00, 11:00

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
■ **The Equalizer** (R) (Closed caption) 12:10, 1:00, 3:20, 4:10, 6:30, 7:20, 9:40, 10:20
■ **Annabelle** (R) (Closed caption) 7:00, 9:30
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) (Closed caption) 1:50, 7:00, 9:30
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 8:00, 10:00
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 11:20, 4:30
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:00, 11:50, 1:40, 2:30, 4:20, 5:10, 7:10, 7:50, 8:10, 10:30
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:20, 3:30, 5:40
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:10, 1:45, 4:15
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) (Closed caption) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 3:40, 6:20
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy 3D** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:50
■ **The Hundred-Foot Journey** (PG) (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:15

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644
■ **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** (PG-13) 4:30, 10:10
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ 2:00, 5:15
■ **The Equalizer** (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 8:20, 9:20, 10:10
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) 12:30, 1:20, 6:45, 9:30
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) 1:15
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) 3:55, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) 2:55, 4:15, 7:50
■ **AMC Independent Más negro que la noche** (R) ★ 2:10, 7:50
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) 2:15, 4:50, 6:55
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:20
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ 10:00
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) 1:30, 2:05, 4:00, 4:40, 10:05
■ **Let's Be Cops** (R) 1:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:25
■ **AMC Independent The Drop** (R) 2:15, 5:20
■ **AMC Independent Cantinflas** (PG) 1:50, 7:15
■ **Left Behind** (PG-13) ★ 7:00, 9:45
■ **Annabelle** (R) 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
■ **Más negro que la noche 3D** (R) ★ 5:00, 10:30

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy 3D** (PG-13) ✓ (Closed caption) 1:20, 10:20
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) ✓ (Closed caption) 4:15, 7:10
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ ✓ (Closed caption) 1:30, 4:30
■ **Breakup Buddies** (NR) ★ 12:10
■ **Breakup Buddies** (NR) ★ 7:00, 10:05
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20
■ **Más negro que la noche 3D** (R) ★ 1:50
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:40, 2:50, 3:50, 6:00, 9:10
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 9:40
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:10, 1:10, 3:20, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:10, 10:40, 11:10
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 12:50, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:20, 8:50
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 2:30, 5:15, 8:10, 11:00
■ **Gone Girl** (R) (Closed caption) 8:00, 11:20, 12:00
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:00, 6:40, 10:25
■ **Más negro que la noche** (R) ★ 4:40
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:30, 2:00, 3:30, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50
■ **Annabelle** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 7:00, 9:40, 12:05
■ **The Skeleton Twins** (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45
■ **VIP Premium 21+**
■ **The Equalizer** (R) ★ (Closed caption) **VIP Premium 21+** 12:40, 2:50, 3:50, 6:00, 9:10
■ **Annabelle** (R) ★ (Closed caption) **VIP Premium 21+** 7:00, 9:40, 12:05

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646
■ **Gone Girl** (R) ★ 10:00
■ **Left Behind** (PG-13) ★ 7:00, 9:45
■ **Annabelle** (R) ★ 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30

**OAK PARK
LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)**
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560
■ **The Equalizer** (R) (Closed caption) 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) 12:00, 2:15, 6:45, 9:00
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) 4:30
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
■ **Gone Girl** (R) (Closed caption) 10:00
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) (Closed caption) 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35

**EVANSTON
CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)**
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy** (PG-13) 11:15, 4:55, 10:35
■ **Guardians of the Galaxy 3D** (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:05, 7:45
■ **Tim Rice's From Here to Eternity** (NR) 7:00
■ **Boyhood** (R) 11:00, 12:00, 12:15
■ **The Hundred-Foot Journey** (PG) 12:15
■ **No Good Deed** (PG-13) 11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:05
■ **This Is Where I Leave You** (R) 11:35, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55
■ **The Maze Runner** (PG-13) 11:10, 12:30, 1:50, 3:10, 4:30, 5:50, 7:10, 9:50
■ **Dolphin Tale 2** (PG) 11:05, 1:45, 4:25
■ **A Walk Among the Tombstones** (R) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
■ **The Equalizer** (R) (Closed caption) 1:30, 4:30
■ **The Equalizer** (R) (Closed caption) 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00
■ **The Boxtrolls** (PG) 11:25, 4:35, 9:30
■ **The Boxtrolls 3D** (PG) (Closed caption) 1:55, 7:00
■ **Gone Girl** (R) (Closed caption) 8:00
■ **Gone Girl** (R) (Closed caption) 9:00, 10:00, 11:00
■ **Annabelle** (R) 11:00, 12:00, 12:15, 12:30, 1:45, 4:25
■ **The Skeleton Twins** (R) 12:20, 2:55, 5:20, 7:40, 10:05
■ **The Drop** (R) 12:05, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:45
■ **Hector and the Search for Happiness** (R) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15
■ **Men, Women & Children** (R) 8:00, 11:00
■ **The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby** (R) (Closed caption) 11:55
■ **Tracks** (PG-13) 11:40, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00
■ **Jimi: All Is by My Side** (R) (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:20, 5:05, 7:55, 10:40
■ **My Old Lady** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45
■ **Left Behind** (PG-13) 11:00, 7:00, 9:40



Ben Feldman
SEANELY/REDEYE

What will 'A to Z' star Ben Feldman do for love? Not that!

By Curt Wagner | REDEYE

Ben Feldman claims he isn't the "hopeful romantic" that his character on the new sitcom "A to Z" is, but he has had his moments.

Or moment, as he says. Before he and his wife married, Feldman told her he was taking her to Africa and Asia in one evening. He drove her to San Diego, where they visited a wild animal park on a Valentine's Day couples' night before dinner at an Indian restaurant.

"I'll never top that; it was the coolest," said Feldman, who dated his now wife of almost one year for seven years before popping the question. "That was the romantic thing that I did in seven years."

"A to Z" chronicles the "8 months, 3 weeks, 5 days and 1 hour" that Feldman's character, Andrew, dates Zelda, played by Cristin Milioti (the mother from "How I Met Your Mother"). The rom-com was created by Ben Queen and is executive produced by Rashida Jones and Will McCormack, writers of the 2012 film "Celeste and Jesse Forever."

In the series premiere at 8:30 p.m. Thursday on NBC, Andrew falls for Zelda after seeing her in the office of the online dating service where he works. After realizing they had met years earlier, he thinks they are destined to be together. The more cynical Zelda doesn't believe in destiny—or that they should be together.

"[Andrew] just sort of wears his heart on his sleeve and dives head first into everything," Feldman said.

While Andrew makes grand gestures for love, he won't go to the extreme that Michael Ginsberg, Feldman's "Mad Men" character, did when he sliced off his nipple and presented it to Peggy Olson (Elisabeth Moss) in a gift box.

"Would you call that an extreme? That's how I proposed [to my wife]," Feldman joked. "Yes, every episode will be as perverse and ridiculous as that particular moment."

"No. No limbs will be severed, I think, on 'A to Z,'" he said, adding that "Mad Men" creator Matthew Weiner and he discussed how, in a screwed up way, Ginsberg's gesture was romantic. "So really I'm just jumping from one rom-com to another."

Feldman said he didn't keep the nipple, but he does have the bloody bandage in a drawer next to his bed. "I'm not sure why," he said.

Maybe for sentimental reasons, but Feldman said he's more like Milioti's character—while she's more like his character in reality.

"I think I'm probably lot more of a cynic in real life than Andrew," he said. "I guarantee you my wife and I will be watching this show and she will probably ask me to be a little bit more like my character."

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IN SELECT THEATERS OCTOBER 10TH

eat & drink

FREAKIN' WEEKEND

7 Halloween parties for the weird, wild and wicked

By **Kate Bernot** | REDEYE

Freaks are the new zombies, if this year's Halloween parties are any indication. Bars are embracing the twisted, dark side of the holiday with freak show-themed bashes that lend themselves to some eerie costume possibilities. There are a handful of other great events, too, including a potentially haunted Pilsen bar party and a Jazz Age cocktail party and movie screening downtown. Don't sleep on these parties, though; even though not all require advanced ticket sales, you'll want to start assembling that horrifying costume soon. KBERNOT@TRIBUNE.COM | [@REDEYEATDRINK](https://twitter.com/REDEYEATDRINK)



Boneshaker

9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31 at Redmoon Theater
2120 S. Jefferson St. 312-850-8440
Eighteen-foot-tall candelabras, aerial dancers, a pastry Ferris wheel and cigar-and-mezcal

salon—this could only be the work of Redmoon Theater, whose annual Boneshaker party is one of the most surreal, over-the-top events of the fall. An expected 1,000 guests will have access to three DJ-driven

MORE PARTY OPTIONS

Find more Halloween parties in Chicago at metromix.com.

dance floors, interactive performances, a room dedicated to chocolate fondue as well as an open bar and food and drinks from Lagunitas Brewing Company, Pabst Blue Ribbon beer and Spin-Spun cotton candy. Part theater event, part performance art, part out-there costume party, Boneshaker costs \$75 (through Oct. 24) and \$100 thereafter. For tickets, visit redmoon.org/box-office or call the theater.

Northalsted Halloween Parade: The Freakshow (Free!)

8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31 in Boystown Halsted Street between Belmont Avenue and Addison Street

One of the city's biggest and most creative costume celebrations takes place annually in Boystown, where groups and individuals strut their creations that correspond to the freak show theme. Line up (early, if you want a good spot) along Halsted Street to watch contestants in categories including Drag, Group, Original, Pet and Scariest. Gear up for the parade with a free pre-registration party from 9-11 p.m. Oct. 24 at Progress Bar (3359 N. Halsted St. 773-697-9268), featuring a

green screen photo machine and Fireball whiskey specials.

Haunted (Punch) House

7-9 p.m.; 10 p.m.-midnight Friday, Oct. 31 at Punch House 1227 W. 18th St. 312-526-3851

The retro basement punch bar in Pilsen's historic Thalia Hall just might be haunted, given the building's age. The staff dials up the creepy factor for a party co-hosted by Salonathon's Jane Beachy and interdisciplinary arts group The Inconvenience, which includes a guest DJ, a glass of Letherbee gin punch or Lagunitas beer, plus a costume contest for a \$100 gift card to Dusek's (the restaurant upstairs) and two tickets to any upcoming Thalia Hall show. Choose your two-hour time slot and buy tickets at ticketweb.com.

Haunted Inn Brunch

1 p.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 25 at Hubbard Inn 10 W. Hubbard St. 312-222-1331

Two Las Vegas-based DJs, DJ Ikon and DJ Que, pop up at the River North restaurant for a special Halloween-themed boozy brunch. Costumes are highly encouraged at the second installment in Hubbard Inn's new Sunday



Halloween decorations at Hubbard Inn in 2013
KAITLYN MCQUAID FILE PHOTOS FOR REDEYE

afternoon brunch party, which includes confetti, strobe lights and a dining room decked out in cobwebs, skulls and other creepiness. Fuel the party with dishes such as blueberry-stuffed French toast (\$11), a lobster omelet (\$15) or a chorizo and goat cheese flatbread (\$14).

'Made In Chicago' Movie Singalong and Costume Party (Free!)

6 p.m. cocktail hour; 7 p.m. movie screening Friday Oct. 31 at Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University 50 E. Congress Parkway 312-341-2310

Slip into your best jazz-era, flapper-esque, Roaring '20s gear for the kick-off to Auditorium Theatre's "Made in Chicago" movie series, which screens the Academy Award winning film "Chicago" starring Catherine Zeta-Jones, Renee Zellweger and Richard Gere. Start the evening with classic cocktails (cash bar) in the theater's glitzy lobby at 6 p.m. and enter a costume contest for a chance to win tickets to upcoming performances. At 7 p.m., settle in for a sing-along screening of the film accompanied by the Auditorium's Merry Murderess dancers in the aisles.



Blind Tiger: A Circus of Horrors, A Carnival of Curiosities

10 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31-1 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 1 at The Violet Hour 1520 N. Damen Ave. 773-252-1500

The dimly lit Wicker Park cocktail bar hosts a late-night "freaks of nature"-themed soiree that includes three hours of cocktails and other Halloween surprises. Costumes are encouraged. Tickets are \$75 plus gratuity and space can be reserved by emailing aubrey@theviolethour.com.

Roof Horror Story

9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31-2 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 1 at Roof 201 N. State St. 312-239-9502

"American Horror Story" fans, this one's for you. The 27th-floor bar inside The Wit hotel throws a "Horror Story"-themed party with DJ Tina T, staff decked out in Coven-inspired attire and bubbling fountains of blood red-hued cocktails. Roof opens at 4 p.m.; party begins at 9 p.m. No cover.

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EAT THIS

GO AHEAD, TREAT YOURSELF!



Angus Beef Melt Toastie (\$7.49) at Pret A Manger *Multiple locations, pret.com/us*
Pret A Manger, the classy British fast-food chain where brie cheese and smoked salmon lounge luxuriously on baguettes while bad-mouthing cheeseburgers, has gone to Green Acres, so it seems. Bolstering its other down-home outsiders like the barbecue pulled pork and buffalo chicken wraps, the restaurant has strayed further from its European comfort zone to offer some heartier Midwestern fare, including Chicago's Angus Beef Melt Toastie (\$7.49). The Toastie (U.K. parlance for "toasted sandwich," apparently) features grilled bloomer bread (more British vocab, meaning a textured bread full of grains and seeds) that bookends peppery Angus beef, pungent Swiss cheese, sweet onions and portobello mushrooms that are all smothered in a dijon mustard-mayonnaise blend. The creamy mustard-mayo rings of horseradish offers some wake-up tang. The leading lady, though, is the mushrooms. They bring an earthiness to a sandwich that would otherwise be too rich. **TRIBUNE**



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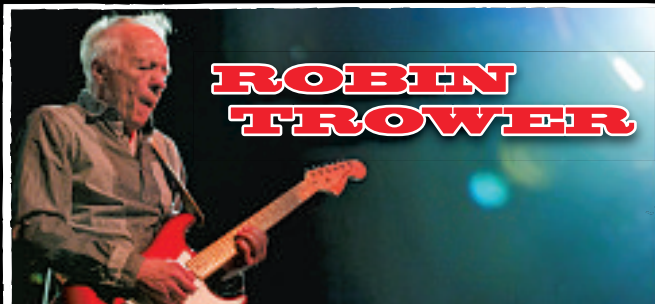
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FALL FOR THEM

BANKS, CHARLIXCX LEAD THE LIST OF OCTOBER'S BEST CONCERTS

By Andy Downing | FOR REDEYE

October belongs to the ladies, with shows from rising pop-stars (Charli XCX, Banks), killer vocalists (Sharon Van Etten, Lucius) and acts whose music generates its own atmosphere (Warpaint, Zola Jesus). Heck, even two male-fronted acts hitting town this month are playing in support of albums with feminine titles, including Rhye ("Woman") and Chromeo ("White Women").

ANDY DOWNING IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. @REDEYECHEMUSIC

Robert Plant & the Sensational Space Shifters

Thursday at Riviera Theatre

Rather than cashing in with a Led Zeppelin reunion, singer Robert Plant has continued to follow his creative muse, exploring roots-leaning material with his band the Sensational Space Shifters.

Joey Bada\$\$

Thursday at Metro

The Brooklyn MC and Chance The Rapper collaborator arrives here in support of his solo debut, "B4.Da.\$\$."

Warpaint

Sunday at the Vic

While the Los Angeles crew's name suggests something more aggressive, its recent, self-titled album tends toward atmospheric, layering together, hushed, spooky tones.



1 Banks

Tuesday at Metro

The L.A.-based pop singer walks the line between confessional, Fiona Apple-style balladry and electro-tinged R&B on her debut full-length, "Goddess."



GETTY IMAGES

Lucius*Wednesday at Metro*

The Brooklyn crew, helmed by dual singers Jess Wolfe and Holly Laessig, breathes fresh life into the '60s girl-group sound on "Wildewoman."

The Afghan Whigs*Oct. 10 at Metro*

"If they've seen it all/Show 'em something new," howls Greg Dulli amidst "Do to the Beast," the long-awaited comeback album from the sultry, soul-flecked rockers, who continue to add weapons to their already formidable arsenal.

Sharon Van Etten*Oct. 10 at Thalia Hall*

"Every time the sun comes up," sings Sharon Van Etten on her latest, "I'm in trouble." So it goes on an album where the singer-songwriter repeatedly pushes on her bruises just to feel that dull, familiar ache.

2 Sinkane*Oct. 12 at Schubas*

Ahmed Gallab, the Sudan-born Brooklynite who records and performs as Sinkane, incorporates elements of everything from Afro-pop to psychedelic soul on his staggering new album "Mean Love."

Lvl Up*Oct. 12 at Beat Kitchen*

The New York indie-rock band plays here in support of its latest, "Hoodwink'd."

Charli XCX*Oct. 13 at Lincoln Hall*

The fast-rising British pop-star, who's set to drop her new album by year's end, tends to take a somewhat jaded view of romance, penning songs that compare being in a relationship with imprisonment, ingesting poison and suffering through a long, cold nuclear winter.

Damien Rice*Oct. 13 at Athenaeum Theatre*

The heart-on-his-sleeve singer-songwriter performs here in support of "My Favourite Faded Fantasy," the Irishman's first album of new material in eight years.

Zola Jesus*Oct. 16 at Thalia Hall*

The former Wisconsinite looks mystical in press photos—a fitting match for the mysterious, exploratory tunes dominating her ethereal catalog.

**King Tuff***Oct. 16 at Subterranean*

King Tuff's Kyle Thomas specializes in the kind of sludgy garage-pop one could imagine the cast of "Dazed and Confused" listening to on set between takes.

Ryan Adams*Oct. 16 at the Chicago Theatre*

On his new, self-titled LP, the tough-to-classify musician (Adams has recorded tracks steeped in everything from alt-country to metal) sounds fully at home in his skin, breezing through songs that would fit comfortably on most heartland rock stations.

3 Big K.R.I.T.*Oct. 17 at Bottom Lounge*

The criminally overlooked Mississippi MC has rarely made a musical misstep, releasing a string of solid-to-essential mixtapes to prep audiences for the November release of his sophomore album "Cadillactica."

**4 Chromeo***Oct. 17 at Riviera Theatre*

The ripped-from-the-'80s duo behind the sleazy, synth-stoked "White Women" delivers pop cheese with tongue planted firmly in cheek.

Skrillex and A\$AP Ferg*Oct. 18 at Navy Pier*

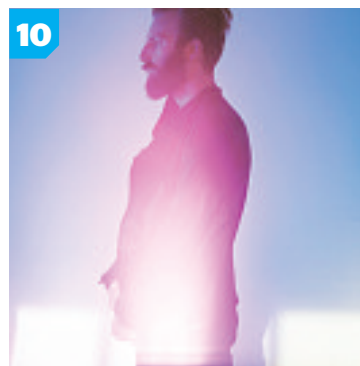
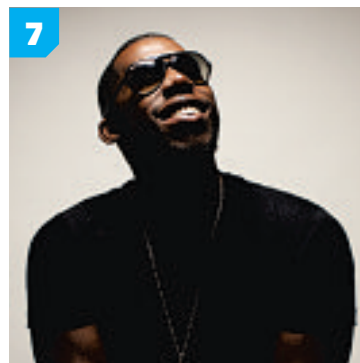
Big beats and brash rhymes find a suitable home at Navy Pier—a location not known for its understated feel.

King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard*Oct. 18 at Subterranean*

The Australian psych-rock collective's name and sound both call to mind the imaginative, whimsical world of Dr. Seuss.

5 Bastille*Oct. 21 at Aragon Ballroom*

Helmed by finely coiffed frontman Dan Smith, Bastille specializes in melancholic, heart-tugging piano ballads



that should have couples in the audience holding a wee bit tighter.

Iceage*Oct. 22 at Empty Bottle*

These Danish punks make music as severe and chilling as their name suggests.

Tombs*Oct. 22 at Township*

"Savage Gold" finds the metal crew both refining and expanding on its eclipse-conjuring sound, which forges elements of black metal, post-punk and aggressive rock into something wholly seamless.

6 Tune-Yards*Oct. 22 at Vic Theatre*

"Nicki Nack," the latest from Tune-Yards, is a joyous record that harnesses the manic, playful energy of a kindergarten class prior to the opening bell.

7 Flying Lotus*Oct. 24 at Concord Music Hall*

The inventive electronic producer said his forthcoming concept album "You're Dead!" "starts at the moment of death," making it an ideal soundtrack for the Halloween season.

Rhye*Oct. 25 at the Vic*

The L.A.-based R&B duo packed its debut full-length "Woman" with airy jams so fragile they sound as though they could shatter on impact.

Polaris*Oct. 26 at Lincoln Hall*

Polaris, which includes members of Miracle Legion, served as the house band on Nickelodeon's "The Adventures of Pete & Pete." For the Chicago stop, both Pete (Danny Tamberelli) and Pete (Mike Maronna) will be along to record an episode of their podcast, so expect obscenely high nostalgia levels.

8 Courtney Barnett*Oct. 27 at Metro*

Though native to Australia, the jangly, indie-rock musician has experienced more success stateside than in her homeland, selling out a string of U.S. dates before logging her first sold-out gig down under.

9 Twin Peaks*Oct. 30 at Lincoln Hall*

The local, high-energy garage-rock quartet's sophomore album, "Wild Onion," tops its debut in everything from the run time (it clocks in at 40 minutes, double the length of its predecessor) to the quality of the songwriting.

Bonnie "Prince" Billy*Oct. 31 at Thalia Hall*

"Singer's Grave a Sea of Tongues," Will Oldham's latest effort under the Bonnie "Prince" Billy banner, is a gorgeous, homespun recording that finds the singer delivering his words amid a gurgling mountain spring of stirring backwoods instrumentation.

10 Ben Frost*Oct. 31 at Constellation*

"Aurora," the latest from the Iceland-based noisemaker, finds the producer venturing into an industrial wasteland of buzzing synths, pulverizing drums and scuzzy electronic noise.



Thom Yorke
REUTERS/FILE

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ALBUM REVIEW



Tomorrow's
Modern Boxes
Thom Yorke



It's a good thing "Tomorrow's Modern Boxes," the surprise solo album Thom Yorke released last week through BirTorrent, won't be sold in stores. After all, music retailers don't stock a "difficult listening" section. Available to download for \$6, the eight-track "Tomorrow's Modern Boxes" has moments of vividness and a few toe-tapping grooves. Mostly, though, Yorke's solo follow-up to 2006's "The Eraser" is a slog. Listening to it feels like work, delivering pretty much what you expect when the Radiohead singer and long-time producer Nigel Godrich (also a member of Atoms for Peace with Yorke) go it alone. The album's heavily distorted and digitally mashed bytes and bits sound like a vinyl record put through the dishwasher and played

on a turntable with a bad needle. Of course, most of the echoing vocals focus on Yorke's paranoid pontificating about the modern world and the technological dangers that come with it.

That's not to say the album doesn't have its moments. Though opening track "A Brain in a Bottle" is a yawn-worthy, predictable Yorke tune, it leads into "Guess Again!," which pairs a haunting set of piano chords with some head-bobbing, bass-throbbing beats and lyrics that harken back to Radiohead's "Amnesiac" era. Later on the record, "Truth Ray" provides a pleasantly trippy, subdued break from the droning monotony, even with its ominous lyrics about sin and losing everything.

Still, Yorke's solo effort should be a challenge for even his most die-hard fans to digest. Those supporters will be left half-satisfied, hoping "Tomorrow's Modern Boxes" got all the bleeps and bleeps out of Yorke's system before recording Radiohead's next album. Speaking of which: Yorke didn't "pull a Beyonce" here. Radiohead was tweaking album release conventions years before Blue Ivy was even born. MSWASKO@TRIBUNE.COM | @MSWASKO


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Walking the (dog) walk

When it comes to dogs' mental, physical health, the backyard won't cut it

By **Gwendolyn Purdom** | REDEYE

In the 15 years since Marc Matlin founded Chicago Dog Walkers, he's learned a few things about the importance of taking Fido for a spin around the block.

"Dogs like to go out and sniff around. It's kind of like us reading a newspaper; they like to get whatever information that there is," Matlin said. "It keeps them fresh and in the loop."

But according to a recent survey conducted by pet site Pet360, when it comes to walking, many dogs are getting the short end of the leash. The poll of 4,000 dog owners—taken in honor of National Walk Your Dog Week, which kicked off Wednesday and runs through Tuesday—found only 56 percent of those surveyed walk their dogs at least once a day, preferring instead to let them out in the yard. Here in Chicago, where yard space often is scarce, experts say daily walks are especially key.

A typical adult dog should be walked at least three times a day, for a minimum of 15 minutes or more if possible, said Dan Sanchez, a veterinarian at South Loop Animal Hospital. In addition to the mental stimulation regular walking provides, Sanchez says the dog's health often depends on it as well.

"One of the biggest problems and diseases that we diagnose in our dogs is actually obesity," Sanchez said. "And so this is one of the major reasons why it is so important to go for a good long walk with most of our dogs so that they are getting exercise. ... Even if we're throwing a ball in the yard, it's going to be hard to really burn calories too much by doing that."

Dustin Estes typically walks 12 dogs a day working for Windy City Dog Walkers. The 36-year-old, who lives in Avondale, says walks

WALKERS' FAVORITE ROUTES

- » Tony Schreck, founder of Windy City Dog Walkers, likes bringing dogs to Grant Park or to the newly refinished dog park on Larrabee and Erie streets in River North.
- » Windy City Dog Walker Dustin Estes says he's found Greektown to be the dog-walk-friendliest neighborhood, with Mary Bartelme Park and the dog park next to Skinner Park nearby.
- » Dog owner Jillian Potter likes walking her boxer mixes to Oz Park in Lincoln Park.

also present an opportunity to strengthen training and behavior through a daily ritual. With that routine, however, also comes additional risks, particularly in an urban setting.

"A lot of people, when they duck down the alley to throw away the poop bag into the trash can or the dumpster, they need to be watchful and mindful of what their dog can get into in those situations, whether it be broken glass or infected rat poop," Estes said. "In my experience, it's one of the most dangerous places for a dog to get into something and where an animal can get sick."

The additional challenges of city walks may pay off in a dog's long-term development, though. Exposure to more traffic, more people and other dogs on the sidewalk might require more training, but it can also give animals additional socialization and confidence, experts say.

For Jillian Potter of Lincoln Park, walking her two boxer mixes in a city environment means when she runs errands, Bailey, 7, and Lilly, 10, get to tag along. And in a dog-friendly city like Chicago, they're often rewarded for it.

"I love taking them on our evening errands because there are so many dog-friendly businesses," said Potter, 30. "We pick up my dry cleaning and they get a beef stick from the dry cleaner." GPURDOM@TRIBUNE.COM | [@GWENPURDOM](https://twitter.com/GWENPURDOM)

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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S	U	D	S		O	G	R	E	S		T	A	S	K

ACROSS

- 1 Goofs up
- 5 from; besides
- 10 Caramel-topped custard
- 14 Cut of pork
- 15 Actor Willem
- 16 Take a fancy to
- 17 Burrowing animal
- 18 Leave high and dry
- 19 Fail to include
- 20 Harder to scale
- 22 Buster & Diane
- 24 Ruby or scarlet
- 25 over; faints
- 26 Group of eight
- 29 Auction offer
- 30 Can wrapper
- 34 Lean-to
- 35 Enjoyment
- 36 Zodiac twins
- 37 Automobile
- 38 Stress
- 40 Actor Duryea
- 41 Scared
- 43 Cow's remark
- 44 At someone's _ and call
- 45 Kingdom
- 46 Aristotle's "T"
- 47 Half-quarts
- 48 Started
- 50 Nov.'s follower
- 51 Digit, such as 1, 2, 3, etc.
- 54 Mimic
- 58 "Put _ shut up!"
- 59 SeaWorld performers
- 61 _Cola
- 62 Numskull
- 63 Follow as a result of
- 64 Light source
- 65 Wraps up
- 66 Punctures
- 67 Alimony recipients

DOWN

- 1 Lawn trees
- 2 Underground plant part
- 3 Vex
- 4 Had a look of contempt
- 5 Found a sum
- 6 Couple
- 7 Fore and _
- 8 Swayed back and forth
- 9 Giggler's sound
- 10 Floating debris
- 11 Chauffeured car, for short
- 12 Related

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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- 13 Brooklyn team
- 21 Calico or collie
- 23 Woody or Tim
- 25 Relative
- 26 Movie award
- 27 Rub enough to make sore
- 28 firma; land
- 29 Olive Oyl's hairstyle
- 31 Obama's VP
- 32 _ legislation; pass laws
- 33 Connections
- 35 Nourished
- 36 Wet sticky stuff
- 38 Stopwatch
- 39 Debtor's note
- 42 Einstein and Schweitzer
- 44 Two-wheeler
- 46 Inborn ability
- 47 Energy
- 49 Argon & helium
- 50 Amounts to be swallowed
- 51 Naked
- 52 Come _; find by chance
- 53 Shape; form
- 54 Black card
- 55 Urge gently
- 56 Pinnacle
- 57 Touches lightly
- 60 Red _ beet

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**God, he's
a dad now**

'GIRL' OF OUR DREAMS

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

If you haven't read or heard of "Gone Girl," the best-selling novel by Chicago author Gillian Flynn, you either A) live under a rock, B) are a rock or C) gave up reading novels after college. In any case, both readers and non-readers should be totally pumped about the movie adaptation, starring Rosamund Pike and Ben Affleck, that FINALLY opens Thursday. For more on why you should definitely go, read Matt Pais' review on Page 19.

But because this is a weird, freaky psychological drama, we're not about to ruin the plot twists and turns for you. Instead, enjoy this map of all the things that went through our head when thinking about "Gone Girl" before we actually got to see it. DAMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM | [@REDEYEDANA](https://www.instagram.com/redeyedana)



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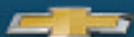


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Jordan Sparks (left)
and Jason Derulo
REUTERS FILE

It wasn't me

It's true that Jason Derulo and Jordyn Sparks have split up. But did he cheat on her? "Naw, man," he told New York's Power 105.1-FM on Wednesday. "Nah, man, there was none of that. I mean, we had our problems in our relationship, you know what I'm saying? Every relationship has their ups and downs and you know, when you start having more downs than ups, you know, you gotta take a look at your relationship." He also left behind the BMW he gave her for Christmas last year, which really is the gift that keeps on giving.

[Bleeping] zombies

There's certainly enough gore on "The Walking Dead" to make star **Lauren Cohan** swear, but the Brit told GQ magazine that she's trying to hold her tongue—even using the word "flipping" in place of our other favorite F-word during an interview. "I never realized how much I actually curse until I read a couple of interviews, and I was like: 'You need to find a different word,'" said Cohan, who plays Maggie Greene. So flipping it is!



'We're all alright!'

Well done, Kelso and Jackie. Former on-screen couple and current beautiful people Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis, who announced their engagement in February, welcomed a baby girl Tuesday, People reports. No word yet on the destined-to-be-dreamy kid's name, but those celebs are all about the kooky monikers so we're hoping for something hip and artsy like Fig or Typewriter.



THE QUOTE
Are you kidding me? David Fincher is a film director. OK? I'm just a storyteller who picked up the camera and said, 'Point it in that direction.'

—**Tyler Perry**, to GQ magazine, comparing his directing skills to that of his "Gone Girl" boss Fincher. We can't complain.

Sweater weather

Taylor Swift may be dressed up all cozy for fall on the cover of British Vogue (in a tank-top sweater dress/shirt thing??), but she's not looking for a dude to keep her warm this year. "Dating or finding someone is the last thing on my mind, because I can't picture how it could work with the way my life is," she told the mag. "I don't know how a guy is supposed to walk next to his girlfriend when there are 20 men with cameras, and he can't protect his girlfriend because that's the life she chose." Does that mean her new album will be about all sorts of non-dude things? Grand.



HOT DATE

SATURDAY

That's when NBC is holding an open casting call for Season 3 of Chicago Fire. Anyone interested in being a non-speaking extra should come to Cinespace Chicago Film Studios (2558 W. 16th St.) between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. with a pen and a recent color photo. Visit [facebook.com/ChicagoFireExtras](https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoFireExtras) for more details.

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